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DIRECTOR OFFICE
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In re Application of: Hiraga, et al.
Application No. 10/602,621
Filed: June 25, 2003
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
MANAGING A DATABASE AND
PROCESSING PROGRAM THEREFOR

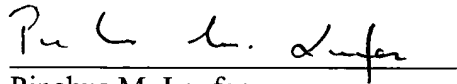
DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL
(ACCELERATED
EXAMINATION)
UNDER M.P.E.P. §708.02 (VIII)

This is a response to the renewed petition filed 24 June 2005, under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) and M.P.E.P. §708.02 (VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special. The renewed petition was filed in response to a dismissal of the original petition filed 21 March 2005.

The original petition was dismissed for failing to meet requirement (e). Specifically, it was noted that the statement provided in the petition purporting to distinguish the claimed subject matter from the references was not sufficient.

The renewed petition identifies a feature of each independent claim (i.e., a first feature of independent claim 1, . . . , a third feature of independent claim 9). In identifying this feature, the discussion states that the references "fail to disclose or suggest [the identified feature] *in combination* with the other limitations recited in the claims" (emphasis added). It is also stated in the discussion of each reference that the reference "does not disclose or suggest" the identified feature for each independent claim "*in combination* with the other limitations recited in each of the independent claims" (emphasis added). In effect, this statement indicates that the *entirety* of the three independent claims is not disclosed by the four references purported to be most closely related. Such a statement normally is not a sufficient detailed description. However, in this case, because the identified feature, and correspondingly the entire claim, in each case contains relatively few limitations, the discussion is sufficient. Accordingly, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The application file is being forwarded to the Examiner of Record for accelerated examination according to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 708.02, Section VIII.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pinchus M. Laufer", is written over a horizontal line.

Pinchus M. Laufer
Special Program Examiner
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Computer Architecture, Software and Information Security
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ds